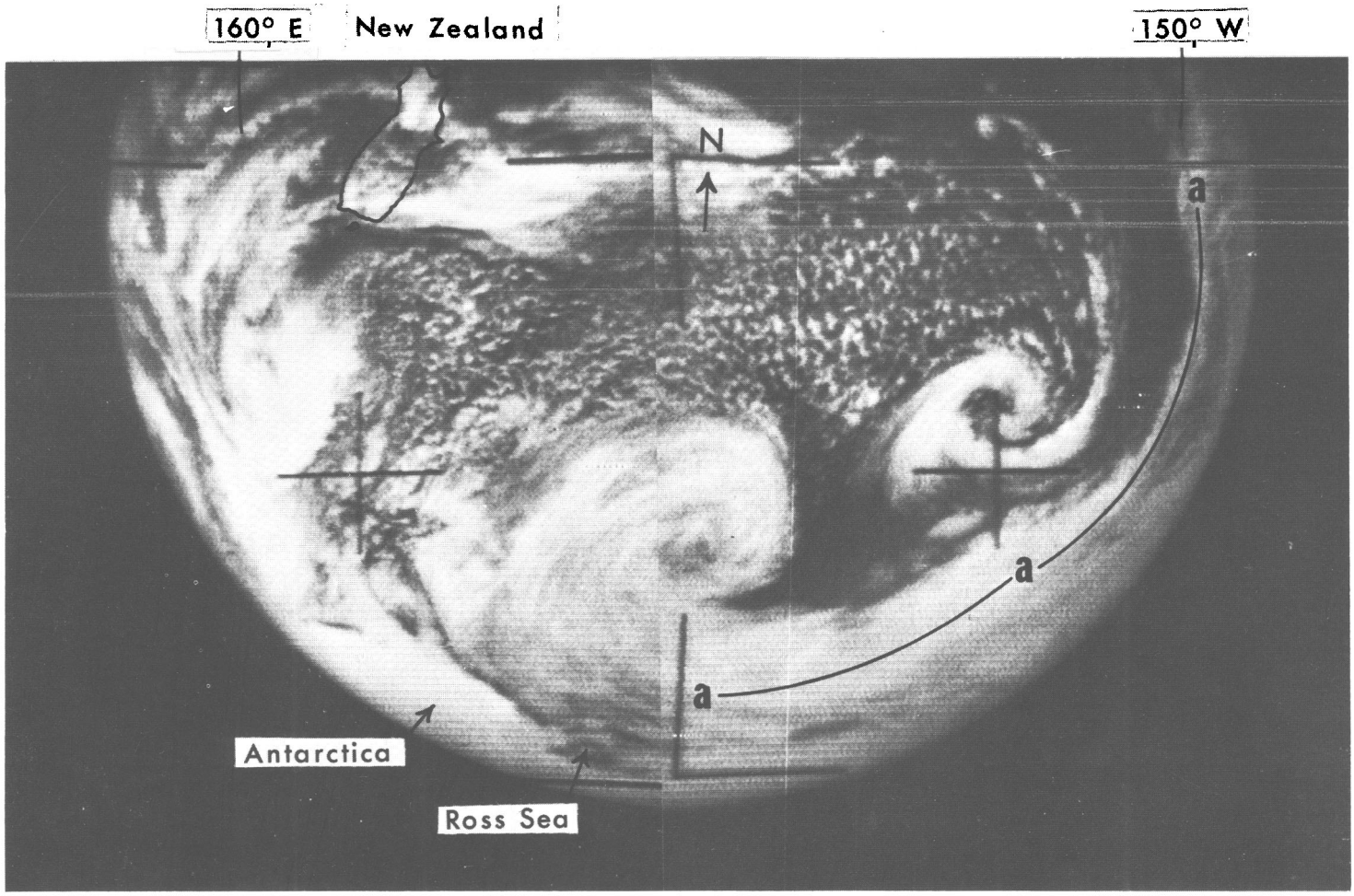
PICTURE OF THE MONTH



TIROS IX, pass 203/202, Cameras 1 and 2, 0207 GMT, February 8, 1965.

Two distinct and clearly-defined centers of cyclonic vorticity are contained within this TIROS IX double photograph, taken over the far Southern Pacific Ocean. The major center is located near 58° S., 172° W.; the secondary center is near 50° S., 156° W. The outline of South Island, New Zealand, has been added at upper left.

It is believed that the primary cloud vortex corresponds to a large, deeply occluded cyclone whose frontal system, as indicated by the major cloud band (a–a–a), has advanced very far to the east of the low center. The secondary disturbance is within the cold air to the rear of the major frontal band, and it represents an unusually well-defined vorticity center although possibly not a closed cyclonic circulation. The slight northwestward bulge of the cloud band in the area just beneath the fiducial crossmark may have been induced by the approaching vorticity maximum. Overall, the entire cyclonic system seems somewhat "inverted," with convective clouds marking the presence of unstable cool air equatorward of both disturbance centers.

Detailed conventional data to corroborate all of the foregoing are not available. However, copies of the 0000 GMT and 1200 GMT surface and upper-air analyses for February 8 from the International Antarctic Analysis Center, Melbourne, Australia, do indicate, on the basis of peripheral data, a large area of low pressure centered near 58° S., 170° W.

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